

spoiled our appetite for breakfast; even the coolies laughed at us.

We came to the conclusion that the fish must have gone to the upper waters, and determined to follow them. We went to the upper waters, a painful journey on pack horses. We fished with flies, we fished with minnows, we descended to bait, but we caught no salmon trout.

On getting back, while our cuticle was slowly healing from the injuries it had received from the pack horse, we studied works on Chinese literature, with a view to experimenting on the person of the villain who gave us the alluring details of the beautiful fishing at Sapporo.—*Esquimaux Gazette.*

IMURIS MINES, LIMITED.

The following is the latest report of the above named Company:—

9, Fenchurch Avenue,
London, E.C.
30th July, 1890.

To the Shareholders of the Imuris Mines,
Limited.

Dear Sirs,—Since addressing you on the 9th June, the accounts received from the mines have continued very satisfactory; but owing to the harvest season, and consequent scarcity of labour, the construction of the railway has been somewhat retarded; it is now, however, in full progress again.

From Mr. Whyte's June reports the following extracts will prove interesting:—

"San Imuris Mine—Winze No. 2 on 2nd level has been sunk 27 feet, the vein holding an average width of 2 feet of good milling quartz. This winze will connect with the 3rd level about the 1st of August. Drift running west on 3rd level has been driven 414 feet. The vein will average 3 feet wide throughout this distance; which at this point is very hard and solid, all gold-bearing quartz of a dark reddish colour, assays from which give from \$5 to \$30 per ton. The vein here gives every indication of being permanent, having perfect foot and hanging walls.

"Drift running east on 3rd level has been driven 717 feet. The vein here is not so wide as the west end; it will average 20 inches, and has the appearance and character as the ore found on the 2nd level directly above this point. The winze sinking from bottom of west tunnel has been sunk 50 feet during the month all the way through good milling ore. The vein is from 18 inches to 2 feet wide, the best ore that has been found in this part of the mine.

"Eria Mine.—(A new development close to the Sheba mine, which was not included in the original concession). This mine continues to be as promising as ever. There are now about 100 tons of ore on the dump that gives an average of 33 1/2-100th oz. of silver per ton. We are in a position to produce 20 tons per day from this mine, and by the time the railway and reduction works are completed can produce much more. From present appearances I would say this to be the most valuable mine in the group, and the railway will pass within 300 feet of it.

Sheba and San Jose—We are working with a few men at both these mines, and the developments continue as promising as ever.

Yours faithfully,
JAS. HOPKINSON,
Secretary.

THE FAMILY OF MENCIUS.

The clanship of the Chinese is a strong feature of their life. The family is the social unit. But it is not the single family. It is the solid family, not in its present life alone, but reaching back to its very beginning. This is the clan. The social position of the Confucian family is frequently brought to the public notice. The family of Mencius is not so well-known to the foreign public. Among my friends is one of this clan. He is a remarkably intelligent and capable man. It is the custom of the members of this clan to apply at headquarters whenever there is any special need to settle some personal, local, or official dispute. The present head of the house is Meng Chao Huan. He lives in semi-clerical state at the family and ancestral centre. That centre is to-day, as it was four centuries B.C., at Tsao Hien. The MacCallum family of the tribe is still "Meng of Tsao." This worthy is the head of the seventy-second generation in direct descent from the great Teacher. My friend visited the family headquarters some years since as the deputed Master of the tribe. This worthy dispenses large on a grand scale. He receives a bounty from the Imperial Treasury. It is not so large nor so certain as that of the still greater Duke K'ung. Any of the Meng family from any part of the Empire coming thither to pay his respects is suitably entertained. There is a large caravanserai capable of holding at least a hundred guests. All who gain access to this are supported or entertained free of charge. If a modest man, should there be any such visiting the chief, seeing the lesser buildings, takes his abode in them, he finds, to his disgust no doubt, that these are like private wards at a hospital, devoted to paying patients. Only those who bill themselves at the large hostelry are given free entertainment. In like manner with the Duke K'ung, the Mencian chief also dispenses of literary honours. He has 72 of these which he may give to selected members of the widely scattered clan. A full list of every member of the clan by families is kept. This list is corrected every fifteen years. From this list the annual draft of honours is made, according to the pleasure of the chief. How this draft is affected by contributions to the chief, or by other services well-known to the Chinese, we are not informed. My friend is the happy recipient of one of these honours this present year. The selection of seven from his village of the common surname was the outcome of a subscription of 100,000 cash toward the completion of the genealogical list of one branch of the family. Henceforth these newly-made members of the clan will have the privilege of scholarship. They cannot be bamboozled for any misdemeanour by the local official. Like the *Tus Romanus* it carries certain exemptions with it. A recent receipt from the chief requests all members of the clan in this district to keep on friendly terms with the district official, to refrain from unnecessary quarrels and to keep the interests of the clan, or brotherhood as it is really become, first in their thought. One may easily estimate the value in certain cases of this distinguished prestige and leadership. Dr. Holmes tells us of the Brahmins of New England. They are the True Blue descendants of the Pilgrim Fathers with all the pride of race and culture and leadership which that implies. What are such Brahmins to these of China, the direct offspring through these long generations of Meng of Tsao. What are we ephemera of the West in comparison with the Brahmins of Shantung!—"Lo Sue" in Chinese Times.

FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS A SHARE!

From time to time one sees in English newspapers an announcement to the effect that the fractional part of an "Adventurer's Share" or a

King's Share," as the case may be, in the New River Company has been put up at auction and sold for a sum which, without exaggeration, may be considered a handsome fortune. Comparatively few persons, perhaps, know of the origin of these peculiar classes of shares, and a short sketch of their history may therefore prove of interest.

The New River Company, the first and most successful company of its kind, was founded nearly three centuries ago by a Mr. Hugh Middleton, a city man of some wealth and repute. During the reigns of Elizabeth and James various schemes seem to have been projected for supplying the London metropolis with water, but it was not until the year 1609 that anything decisive was done in the matter when, at the invitation of Mr. Middleton, the Court of Common Council transferred the powers they had obtained from Parliament to that gentleman, who at once began what was at the time considered a gigantic work.

The object in view was to connect certain springs at Chadwell and Amwell, in Hertfordshire, with the metropolis—a distance of some twenty miles; but, owing to the many hills and valleys, nearly double that distance had to be taken for the course.

Up to the time of the date of the company's charter—the year 1619—the work is said to have cost upwards of half a million of money, and until the year 1631 no dividend appears to have been paid on the shares. In fact, so unpromising was the aspect of the enterprise, that the heirs of Sir Hugh the whole of the thirty-six shares of the Crown, on condition that a yearly rent of £500 was paid to the Crown. Thus it will be seen how the general public became possessed of these shares.

It may be of interest to note here that the holder of a King's share is excluded from having any part in the management of the concern; its founder, in order to prevent the direction of its affairs from falling into the hands of courtiers, having stipulated with King James that his Majesty should take no part in the management. Thus these shares are slightly less valuable than those of the "Adventurers," which give the holders a seat on the direction. Both classes of shares have, by alienation become divided into fractional parts, which, in regard to the "Adventurers' shares" necessitated an application being made in the year 1711, to the Lord Chancellor to determine how the holders of these fractional shares were to be represented on the Board. The problem was solved by a decree to the effect that the possessors of two or more fractional parts of a share were empowered to jointly nominate one of their number for election to the Board.

To give an idea of the enormous value to which these shares have risen, it may be stated that in the year 1800 one was sold for £14,000; in 1811 the price obtained was £17,000; in 1828, £94,000, and at the close of last year the eighth part of a share sold for a sum at the enormous rate of £100,000 per share, an amount which in years to come is not unlikely to be exceeded, owing to the reversions of a large property which will accrue to the company, and so still further enhance the value of these historical securities.—*Chambers' Journal.*

CONSUMPTION, Wasting Diseases, and General Debility. Doctors disagree as to the relative value of Cod Liver Oil and Hypophosphites; the one supplying strength and flesh—the others giving nerve power and acting as a tonic to the digestion and entire system. But in Scott's Emulsion of Pure Cod Liver Oil with Hypophosphites the two are combined, and the effect is wonderful. Thousands who have derived no permanent benefit from other preparations have been cured by this. "Scott's Emulsion" is perfectly palatable, and is easily digested even by those who cannot tolerate plain Cod Liver Oil. Any Chemist can supply it.—A. S. Watson & Co. (Lid.), agents in Hongkong and China.—(Advt.)

Co-day's Advertisements.

U. S. MAIL LINE.

PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY
THROUGH TO NEW YORK, VIA OVERLAND RAILWAYS, AND TOUCHING AT YOKOHAMA, AND SAN FRANCISCO.

THE U. S. Mail Steamship

"CITY OF PEKING" will be despatched for SAN FRANCISCO, OYOKOHAMA on SATURDAY, the 27th inst., at 1 P.M., taking Passengers and Freight for Japan, the United States, and Europe. Through Bills of Lading issued for transportation to Yokohama and other Japan Ports to San Francisco, and Atlantic and Indian Oceans of the United States, and Overland Railways, to Havana, Trinidad, and other America ports in Mexico, Central and South America, by the Company's and connecting Steamers.

Through Passage Tickets granted to England, France, and Germany, by all trans-Atlantic lines of Steamers.

First-class Fares granted as follows:—
To San Francisco.....\$25.00
To San Francisco and return.....39.75
To Liverpool.....125.00
To London.....130.00
To other European Ports at proportionate rates. Special reduced rates granted to Officers of the Army, Navy, Civil Service, and the Imperial Chinese Customs, to be obtained on application.

Passengers by this line have the option of proceeding Overland by the Southern Pacific and Connecting Lines, Central Pacific, Northern Pacific, or Canadian Pacific Railways.

Passengers who have paid full fare, re-embarking at San Francisco for China or Japan (or vice versa) within one year will be allowed a discount of 10 per cent. from Return Fare. This allowance does not apply to through fares from China and Japan to Europe.

Freight will be received on board until 4 P.M. the day previous to sailing. Parcel Packages will be received at the Office until 5 P.M. same day.

For further information as to Passage and Freight, apply to the Agency of the Company No. 10A, Queen's Road Central.

C. D. HARMAN, Agent.
Hongkong, 4th September, 1890.

TO LET.
HOUSES at the Peak and at Bellios Terrace.
ROOMS in Beaconsfield Arcade.
GODOWNS in Duddell Street.
BUNGALOW, Delmar, Yow-mid-ti.
Apply to
BELLIOS & Co.
Hongkong, 4th September, 1890.

HONGKONG TRADING CO., LTD.

(Late THE HALL & HOLTZ CO-OPERATIVE COMPANY, LIMITED.)

WE have now opened out in the GENTLEMEN'S OUTFITTING DEPARTMENT our first delivery of Goods for AUTUMN WEAR, comprising:—
SCARFS, SCARFS, SCARFS, in new shapes and patterns.
CASHMERE and MERINO HALF-HOSE, a large assortment.
SILK and SPUN SILK SOCKS, for evening wear.
MERINO and CASHMERE VESTS and PANTS.
NEW SHAPES in COLLARS.
THE DOUGLAS, HOPETOWN, CANNES, SAN REMO, &c., &c.
A wonderfully cheap line of WHITE SHIRTS, price \$14 per dozen.
Single and Double TERTAI HATS.
FELT HATS, newest shapes and colours.
WHITE BUCKSKIN TENNIS SHOES.
WHITE CANVAS TENNIS SHOES.
BROWN CANVAS TENNIS SHOES.
(PLAIN RED RUBBER SOLES)
A large assortment of WALKING STICKS.
FOOT-BALL and ROWING JERSEYS.
WHITE LAMBS WOOL SWEATERS.

HONGKONG TRADING CO., LTD.
(Late THE HALL & HOLTZ Co., Ltd.)
Hongkong, 4th September, 1890.

MARINE HOTEL

THE Undersigned begs to notify the Public of Hongkong and the Coast Ports, that THE MARINE HOTEL is NOW OPEN.
THIS FIRST-CLASS HOTEL is situated on the Praya West, opposite the Old B. & O. Wharf, and is newly built after the designs of the Largest European Hotels—the BEDROOMS, BATH-ROOMS, &c., are commodious, well ventilated and well furnished, and are suitable for Single or Married Persons. THE DINING with the best market can provide.
THE TABLE D'HOTE will be supplied with the best of the market, and are fitted up in superior style. ENGLISH and AMERICAN TABLES.
WINES and LIQUORS of the best qualities and Brands only will be supplied.
The Undersigned therefore begs the patronage of the Public, hoping to give every satisfaction.
JAS. EDWARDS, Proprietor.
[476]
Hongkong, 11th August, 1890.

DROP FROM THE CLOUDS.

THE CANADIAN PACIFIC STEAMSHIP COMPANY.
TAKING CARGO AND PASSENGERS TO JAPAN, CANADA, THE UNITED STATES AND EUROPE, VIA THE CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY AND OTHER CONNECTING RAILWAY LINES & STEAMERS.
THE British Steamship
"STRAITS OF BELLE ISLE," 2,484 Tons Register, Captain Griggs, will be despatched for VANCOUVER, B.C., via (INLAND SEA) KOBE, and YOKOHAMA, on THURSDAY, the 18th inst., at Noon.
To be followed by the S.S. "ABYSSINIA" 28th September and "PARATHIA" 7th October.
Connection will be made at Yokohama with Steamers from Japan Ports, and at Vancouver with Pacific Coast Points, by the regular Steamers of the Pacific Coast Steamship Company and other Steamers.
Through Passage Tickets granted to England, France, and Germany, by all trans-Atlantic lines of Steamers.
First-class Fares granted as follows:—
To Vancouver and Victoria.....\$210.00
To Montreal, New York, &c.....190.00
To Liverpool.....325.00
To London.....330.00
To other European Ports at proportionate rates. Special reduced rates granted to Officers of the Army, Navy, Civil Service, and the Imperial Chinese and Japanese Customs, to be obtained on application.
Consular Invoices to accompany Cargo destined to Points in the United States should be sent to the Company's Offices, addressed to Mr. D. E. BROWN, District Freight Agent, Vancouver.
Freight will be received on board until 4 P.M. on the 17th Sept.
All Parcels must be sent to our Office and should be marked to address in full; and the same will be received by us until 5 P.M. the day previous to sailing.
For information as to Passage or Freight apply to:—
The Steamer will not carry first or second class passengers.
ADAMSON, BELL & Co., Agents.
4th September, 1890.

Mr. Percival Spencer,

THE FAMOUS LONDON AERONAUT GOLD MEDALLIST.

Balloon Society, Great Britain, will shortly make a

BALLOON ASCENT AND PARACHUTE DESCENT in this city.

Particulars of which will be duly advertised.
Hongkong, 4th September, 1890.

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.
FOR SWATOW, AMOY, AND FOCHOW.
The Company's Steamship

"HAITAN," Captain Ashton, will be despatched for the above Ports, on SUNDAY, the 7th inst., at FAYLITING.

For Freight or Passage, apply to DOUGLAS LARPAIK & Co., General Managers.
Hongkong, 4th September, 1890.

FOR SHANGHAI, KOBE & YOKOHAMA, THE Steamship

"QUEEN MARGARET" will be despatched for the above Ports, on about the 15th inst.

For Freight or Passage, apply to ADAMSON, BELL & Co., Agents.
Hongkong, 4th September, 1890.

PUBLIC AUCTION OF OIL PAINTINGS, DIAMOND JEWELLERY, MARBLE CLOCKS, &c.

THE Undersigned has received instructions To Sell by Public Auction, on THURSDAY, the 11th September, 1890, commencing at 2.30 p.m., at his Sale-Rooms, Duddell Street, A very rare collection of OIL PAINTINGS by well-known English painters, a portion of same have been exhibited at the Royal Academy of Arts, in London.

Also, A valuable stock of DIAMOND JEWELLERY, comprising:—RUGS, STUDS, PINS, EARDROPS, BROOCHES, BRACELETS, &c., &c.

Also, 20 Handsome MARBLE CLOCKS of different sizes, 8 and 14 days. Catalogues will be issued prior to Sale, and the above will be on view on Wednesday, the 10th inst.

TERMS OF SALE.—As customary.
G. R. LAMBERT, Auctioneer.
Hongkong, 4th September, 1890.

TO LET.
THE Upper Floor of HOUSE No. 7, Calao Road. Possession 1st October.
Apply to
J. M. V. DE FIGUEIREDO,
No. 5, Calao Road.
Hongkong, 4th September, 1890.

Intimations.
TOURISTS
ARE cordially invited to call and inspect our choice collection of Japanese and Chinese FINE ART CURIOS, which is unequalled in Japan.
Every article guaranteed as represented. No trouble to show goods. One price only.
DEAKIN BROS. & Co., 16 Bond, Yokohama, next door to Parsani's Photographic Studio.
[527]
Hongkong, 14th July, 1890.

W. S. MARTEN, ARTISTIC DECORATOR, AND HOUSE AND ESTATE AGENT, 2, DUDDELL STREET, HONGKONG.
Hongkong, 6th April, 1890.

TO LET UNFURNISHED, From August 1st.
TWO GOOD ROOMS, with Bath Room, in the Calao Road. Rent moderate. Splendid View of the Harbour.
Apply to
W. S. MARTEN, 2, Duddell Street.
Hongkong, 3rd July, 1890.

Notices of Firms.

NOTICE.
THE Interest and Responsibility of Mr. ALEXANDER PALMER MACEWEN in our Firm in Hongkong and China ceased on the 30th June last by mutual consent.
HOLLIDAY, WISE & Co.
Hongkong, 3rd September, 1890. [1255]

NOTICE.
OWING to flux of time, the PARTNERSHIP hitherto existing between the Undersigned as Bill, Bullion, and General Brokers, under the Style of "COHEN & ADIS," has this day been dissolved.
A. S. COHEN.
N. N. ADIS.
Hongkong, 1st August, 1890.

WITH Reference to the above, I have this day resumed Business on my own Account as Bill, Bullion, and General Broker. All forward Contracts of Messrs. COHEN and ADIS will be settled by me.
A. S. COHEN.
Hongkong, 1st September, 1890.

WITH Reference to the above, I will continue to carry on the Business of Bill, Share, and General Broker, on my own Account.
N. N. ADIS.
Hongkong, 1st September, 1890. [1242]

Insurances.

EXAMPLES OF THE COST OF ASSURANCE TO A MAN AGED 30 NEXT BIRTHDAY.

£1,000 STG. payable at death, would cost per quarter at the rate of:—
£ 6 18 0 (a) If premiums are payable for whole of life
or £ 9 11 6 (b) If premiums are limited to 20 years
or £ 11 4 6 (c) If premiums are limited to 15 years
or £ 13 0 0 (d) If the Sum Assured is made payable at age 50, or at death if previous.

* Secured payments.
THE same provisions if commenced at age 40 n. b. would cost respectively (a) £ 8 15 0, (b) £ 11 5 0, (c) £ 13 2 4, (d) £ 17 0 8 per quarter.

ADAMSON, BELL & Co., Agents.
STANDARD LIFE OFFICE
FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, OF 1877 IN HAMBURG.

THE Undersigned having been appointed Agents for the above Company, are prepared to ACCEPT RISKS against FIRE at Current Rates.
REUTER, BROCKELMANN & Co., Agents.
Hongkong, 1st July, 1889. [56]

GENERAL LIFE AND FIRE ASSURANCE COMPANY IN LONDON.

THE Undersigned having been appointed Agents for the above Company, are prepared to ACCEPT RISKS against FIRE and LIFE at Current Rates.
REUTER, BROCKELMANN & Co., Agents.
Hongkong, 1st July, 1889. [57]

NOTICE.
THE MAN ON INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED.
CAPITAL SUBSCRIBED.....\$1,000,000.

THE above Company is prepared to accept MARINE RISKS at CURRENT RATES on GOODS, &c. Policies granted to all Parts of the world payable at any of its Agencies.
WOO LIN YUEN, Secretary.

HEAD OFFICE, No. 2, QUEEN'S ROAD WEST, Hongkong, 1st February, 1889. [527]

GENERAL NOTICE.
THE ON TAI INSURANCE COMPANY, (LIMITED.)
CAPITAL, TAELS 600,000, } \$833,333-33
EQUAL TO \$318,000.00
RESERVE FUND \$318,000.00

BOARD OF DIRECTORS,
LEE SING, Esq. | LO YUEK MOON, Esq.
LOU TAO SHUN, Esq. |
MANAGER.—HO AMEI.

MARINE RISKS ON GOODS, &c., taken at CURRENT RATES to all parts of the world.
HEAD OFFICE, 8 & 9, PRAYA WEST, Hongkong, 17th December, 1889. [1250]

Hotels.

THE HOTEL MARINA.
THIS strictly FIRST CLASS HOTEL, now moored in the Harbour of Victoria, offers guests exceptional advantages for Healthfulness and Refreshing breezes; the avoidance of street noises, and unwholesome odours, &c.

Grand Promenade Deck, Airy Dining Room, Ladies' Parlour, Billiard and Reading Room, Commodious Bedrooms, with separate Bathroom and Verandah to each.

The Table D'Hote is unexcelled. The Hotel Launch runs regularly to and from Pedlar's Wharf and the Hotel Free of Charge; for time table see Bills.

ANDREW FOSTER, Manager.
Hongkong, 13th August, 1890. [1178]

MACAO ROTISSERIE, Nos. 3 & 4, RUA FORMOSA.

BEST BRANDS OF WINES AND SPIRITS. Tiffins and Dinners to order.
MISS C. PALMER, Proprietrix.
Macao, 19th August, 1890. [1197]

THE BOA VISTA.
BISHOP'S BAY, MACAO.

THIS House, situated on the sea shore in one of the best and healthiest parts of Macao, and commanding an admirable view facing the South, was OPENED as a HOTEL on the 1st July.

Every comfort will be provided for visitors, with excellent cuisine and choice wines. Hot Cold Shower and Sea Water Baths. Large and well ventilated Dining, Billiard, and Reading Rooms, and well supplied Bar.

A small daily is attached to the premises.
MRS. MARIA B. DOS REMEDIOS, Proprietress.
[978]

KUHN & CO., JAPANESE AND CHINESE FINE ART DEPOT,
21 & 23, QUEEN'S ROAD.
Hongkong, 21st July, 1890. [1073]

To be Let.

TO LET.
(Possession from 1st October).
FIRST FLOOR of No. 2, Blue Buildings.

Apply to
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT AND AGENCY Co., Ltd.
Hongkong, and September, 1890. [1252]

TO BE LET.
THREE HOUSES at Wild Dell Buildings, Wanchai Road.
A BUNGALOW and HOUSE on the Upper Richmond Road.
No. 1, RICHMOND TERRACE, Six Dwelling Rooms, English Kitchen, Fowl House, Conservatory, and well shaded Tennis Lawn.

Apply to
HENRY HUMPHREYS.

TO BE LET OR SOLD.
On favourable terms, with Immediate Possession.

TWO HOUSES at "Mountain View," Peak District, near Plunkett's Gap. If sold part of the Purchase money can remain on Mortgage.
Apply to
JOHN A. JUPP.
36, Queen's Road Central, Hongkong, 1st September, 1890. [1146]

TO LET.
No. 3, MORRISON HILL. Immediate entry.
Apply to
G. C. ANDERSON, 13, Praya Central.
Hongkong, 22nd April, 1890. [658]

TO LET.
A HOUSE in WEST TERRACE. Immediate Entry.
Apply to
G. C. ANDERSON, 13, Praya Central.
Hongkong, 3rd May, 1890. [511]

TO LET.
TOP FLOORS of No. 21 & 23, Pottinger Street, suitable for Offices or Photographic Studio.
CARMICHAEL & Co., 21 & 23, Pottinger Street.
Hongkong, 31st July, 1890. [1117]

TO LET.
TWO FLOORS of HOUSE No. 8, Stanley Street.
Apply to
ROZARIO & Co.
Hongkong, 10th July, 1890. [1031]

TO LET.
Nos. 21 and 35, ELGIN ROAD, behind the Old Union Church.
Apply to
ACHEE & Co., 17, Queen's Road Central.
Hongkong, 10th June, 1890. [554]

TO BE LET, just below Peak Flagstaff.
BAHAR LODGE.—FURNISHED.

Apply to
HUGHES & EZRA.
Hongkong, 17th April, 1890. [632]

TO LET.
FIRST FLOOR of HOUSE, 15, Praya Central.
2ND FLOOR of HOUSE, No. 64, Queen's Road Central.
Apply to
LAI HING & Co., No. 153, Queen's Road Central.
Hongkong, 22nd March, 1890. [449]

TO LET.
No. 9, SEYMOUR TERRACE.
No. 7, SEYMOUR TERRACE.
No. 4, OLD BAILEY STREET.
OFFICES and CHAMBERS in Connaught House, Queen's Road Central.
Apply to
DAVID SASSOON, SONS & Co.
Hongkong, 4th July, 1890. [119]

TO LET.
FIRST FLOOR of No. 11, Corner Ice House Lane, Queen's Road.
For Particulars, apply to
THE CHARTERED MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA, LONDON & CHINA.
Hongkong 11th August, 1890. [1164]

TO LET.
With Immediate Possession.
GROUND FLOOR No. 2, Blue Buildings.
1ST FLOOR No. 3, Blue Buildings.
Apply to
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT AND AGENCY Co., Ltd.
Hongkong, 1st July, 1890. [988]

TO LET.
TWO COMMODIOUS HOUSES in Carlton Terrace, Queen's Road East. Rent moderate.
Apply to
G. R. LAMBERT.
Hongkong, 1st July, 1890. [959]

For Sale.

CARBOLINEUM AVENARIUS, (REGISTERED).

A N ANTISEPTIC PAINT for the Preservation of Wood, Walls, Ropes and Ship's Tackle. May be applied to Beams, Floors, Walls, Ceilings, Wooden Ornamentations, Eaves, Roofs, Wooden Sheds, Farmyards and Gardens' Implements, Carts, Posts, Fences, Stables, Gates, Bridges, Boats, and all Timber underground.

Effectually excludes all dampness from walls painted with it and entirely prevents the crumbling away and decay of both stone and bricks. White ants do not touch wood painted with Carbolineum Avenarius.

Used during the last 14 years with the utmost success, as proved by numerous Testimonials from living authorities.

Sold in casks of about 450 lbs. net. Price 8 cents per lb.

For further particulars, apply to
SCHEELE & Co., Sole Agents, No. 115, Stanley Street.
Hongkong, 2nd December, 1889. [59]

G. FALCONER & CO., WATCH and CHRONOMETER MANUFACTURERS and JEWELLERS, NAUTICAL INSTRUMENTS, CHARTS and BOOKS.
No. 48, Queen's Road Central. [918]

For Sale

H A U E N S T E I N S F A M I L Y H O T E L , with BILLIARD-ROOMS and BOWLING ALLEY.
This popular Hotel is admirably situated on the island of Koolangsoo.
For further particulars, apply to N. MOALLE.
Amoy, 4th August, 1890. [1146]

FOR SALE.
AT WHOLESALE PRICES.
SACCONNE'S SHERRY, PORT, IRROYS' CHAMPAGNE, CLARET, HOCK, BRANDIES, WHISKIES, MACHINERY, GAS ENGINES, SINGER'S SEWING MACHINES, SCALES, PAINTS, OILS and WARNISH, BICYCLES and TRICYCLES, SODA WATER MACHINERY, JEVES' SANITARY COMPOUNDS, BICYCLE WHEELS for JINRICKSHAWS.
Apply to
W. G. HUMPHREYS & Co.,
Bank Buildings,
Hongkong, 21st November, 1889. [11]

FOR SALE.
AT THE PEAK.
"THE FALLS" on R. B. L. No. 28.—A well built six-roomed House, at present let, on lease for one year.
For full particulars, apply to
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., Ltd.
Hongkong, 12th November, 1889. [28]

FOR SALE.
THE Schooner "MONTIARA."
Length... 75 feet.
Beam... 18 "
Depth of hold... 7 1/2 "
Registered tonnage... 75 tons.
(Owing to recent alterations, the carrying capacity of the *Montiara* has been increased to about 120 tons, dead weight.)
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SUPREME COURT.

IN BANKRUPTCY.

(Before Mr. Fielding Clarke, Acting Chief Justice.)

August 28th, 1890.

RE J. F. WENNER.

In this matter Mr. Fraser-Smith appeared to oppose the petition for the debtor's adjudication. His lordship—I don't think you have any right to appear here as an advocate.

Mr. Fraser-Smith—I am here as the debtor's attorney.

His lordship—Yes, you may appear as his attorney, but you can't appear as his advocate. If you want to do anything on his behalf you must appear through a solicitor.

Mr. Fraser-Smith—I think it is permitted by the Ordinance.

His lordship—Oh, if it is I will hear you.

Mr. Ho Wyson—I appear for the petitioning creditor.

Mr. Fraser-Smith—I don't want to take up the time of the Court. If your lordship says I must instruct a solicitor I will ask you to adjourn the matter. I cannot put my hand on the section, but I certainly think I have a right to appear as the debtor's attorney.

His lordship—You don't appear as a creditor?

Mr. Fraser-Smith—Not to-day, but I am actually the largest creditor of the estate.

His lordship—I think that as a creditor you would be entitled to address the Court and oppose the petition.

Mr. Fraser-Smith—Well, I will not do that at present, but I think this is a most unfair application.

His lordship—I think I had better adjourn this, so that you can engage a solicitor.

Mr. Ho Wyson objected, as petitioner had no means of ascertaining the amounts of the book debts.

The Deputy Registrar—I understand that there are some fees due to Mr. Webber and they want to collect them.

His lordship—Your proper course is to apply for an order for the books to be given up.

Mr. Fraser-Smith said that he had the books, but would readily follow his lordship's direction as to giving them up.

His lordship thought that in that case an order was not necessary, and adjourned the matter for a week.

September 2nd.

A HUSBAND CONTRACTOR.

Mr. Hastings applied, on behalf of Su Chee, for an adjudication order. He said that the debtor was in partnership with others in the Wing Hing Loong shop, 35 Hollywood Road. His schedule showed debts amounting to \$5,442, nearly all due from the partnership, and his assets included, debts \$4,109, money all of which were good—and \$100 worth of bricks and mortar. Probably the creditors would get 50 per cent.

There was no opposition, and the order was granted.

A BANKRUPT BROKER.

Mr. Redda, on behalf of a creditor, applied for the adjudication of Leung Po, a broker, as bankrupt. The debt amounted to \$375, and the act of bankruptcy was in the debtor "cutting his lucky" in July.

Order granted, with protection.

BRITISH MERCANTILE MARINE OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION.

At an ordinary meeting of the British Mercantile Marine Officers' Association, held at the Marine Hotel last night (2nd inst.), it was unanimously decided that the alleged grounds upon which the shipowners of Australia had refused to accede to the demands of the Mercantile Marine Officers—namely, that owing to competition in the coasting and inter-colonial trade they were running their steamers at a loss, even under existing circumstances, was an absolutely ridiculous defence, seeing that the competition complained of by them was owing to their folly in not amalgamating with a view to keeping up freights.

For this suicidal policy of owners, the Chairman said, the officers should not continue to suffer any longer, and therefore, taking all the circumstances into consideration, the officers had no other course open to them but that which they had adopted—a general strike. As to the demands of the shipowners that the officers should sever their connection with the Federal Trades Union, it was arbitrary in the extreme, and an insult not only to the Officers' Association but also to all the trades unions throughout Australasia. There could therefore be little wonder that the other unions had "gone out" on strike and thereby paralyzed trade.

The Chairman then announced that during the current month there would be a conference at Liverpool between the representatives of the Union of Shipmasters and Officers of Great Britain and the Shipowners' Association, which reforms in the condition of those who "go down to the sea in ships," including the establishment of a system of three watches to be strictly maintained on board all British ships of over 300 tons register, as also an increase of pay, could be deliberated upon. He urged members to be very far distant from the grievances of officers in this part of the world, and to consider the position of both officers and shipowners. Patient perseverance in well-doing was all that was needed for the present; but a few days, at the outside a few short weeks, would determine the question whether or not officers of British ships were to be mere slaves. Britons boasted of their rights, their freedom, their privileges; but that it was neither a right nor a privilege for officers to have but four hours sleep, at sea, in which to sleep, to eat, to smoke and to write up their logs, there should be no doubt, either amongst owners or legislators. "That it was neither a right nor a privilege, in the true sense of those words, to be obliged to labour on board ship on Sunday when in port, also went without the saying. It was, in fine, a disgrace to our boasted civilization—a disgrace with which he, the speaker, had often been taunted by intelligent Chinese and Indians.

With the announcement that next Tuesday, the President (Capt. S. Ashton), would, in all probability, favour the members with his welcome presence, and a cordial vote of thanks to the Chairman, the meeting closed.

SOCIETE FRANCAISE DES CHARBONNAGES DU TONKIN.

An extraordinary meeting of the shareholders of the above Company was held at noon yesterday, at the offices, for the purpose of passing several special resolutions.—Mr. Bavier-Chauffour presided, and the Hon. C. P. Chater, Hon. J. J. Keswick, Messrs. T. Whitbread, H. M. Mody, A. G. Morris, D. Norvolce, M. Grotte, T. L. Rose, J. Eckel, E. Solomon, and C. Georg (secretary) were present.

The Chairman, according to French form, announced that the shareholders present represented 6,190 shares, value 3,095,000 francs, and equal to 205 votes. The two principal shareholders—Mr. Chater and Mr. Mody—were invited to act as scrutineers, and Mr. Grotte as secretary. He then said:—

The reason this meeting has been convened is to submit to your approval a scheme to authorise the issue of debentures to the amount of \$600,000, in 6,000 debentures of one hundred dollars each, Haiphong currency, which loan will bear interest at the rate of eight per cent. per annum and be secured by the hypothecation of the property of the Company. At our last meeting on the 31st May, we drew your attention to the fact of our capital having been exhausted, and we informed you that your Directors were already considering the means of raising the money required by way of a loan, and mortgage the property, which will gradually be paid off from our revenue, thus imposing upon the Company a liability which will only be temporary. The extreme limit for the reimbursement has been fixed at six years, from 30th September 1890, it being left to the discretion of your board to anticipate such reimbursements and to such amount as they may think fit in the month of September 1891. I now have the pleasure to submit to your approval the following resolution:—

"This extraordinary general meeting of shareholders authorises the issue of 6,000 debentures of 100 dollars each, Haiphong currency, at par, bearing interest at the rate of 8 per cent per annum, to be paid off within six years from the 30th September, 1890. The meeting leaves it to the discretion of the Board of Directors to fix the dates of such issues and their respective amounts. The Board of Directors to have the option of paying off part or whole of the above loan at any time between the 30th September 1891 and the 30th September 1896 by giving three months notice in the local press of Haiphong and Hongkong of their intention so to do by way of drawings."

Mr. Chater seconded, and it was agreed to. The Chairman next proposed "That this extraordinary general meeting of shareholders authorises the hypothecation of the mine and the property belonging to the Company as guarantee of the loan agreed upon, and gives full power to Mr. Bavier-Chauffour, managing director of the Company, to pass and sign any acts or deeds necessary to that effect."

Mr. Keswick seconded, and the motion was carried.

The Chairman then proposed a number of modifications of the Articles of Association, as recommended by the directors. The first was to transfer the registered head office from Haiphong to Hongkong; the next altered the status of delegate directors; the third reduced the time for sending a copy of the Commissioners' report to France from forty days before the meeting to twenty, for convenience, and a similar change was made in the length of public notice of such meeting. The changes were all agreed to unanimously, and the proceedings then terminated.

THE ACCIDENT TO CAPTAIN PATERSON.

Lieut. Sutherland, writing to Major Hanney from Negri Sembilan, under date 6th ult., sends the following details of the accident to Captain PATERSON, which appear in the *Regimental News*:—

Dear Major:—I have this morning sent a telegram to Malacca, to be wired on to you, informing you of an accident to Captain PATERSON, which no doubt you will receive all right. The news, much exaggerated, is all over the country here, and I thought it as well to wire in case somebody else, thinking it a good para. for Hongkong papers, might wire it up from Singapore. The Colonial Surgeon, who took my telegram down, knows PATERSON's people and will write to his father by first mail, as there is a danger we have no communication by telegraph. As regards the accident, the circumstances are briefly as follows:—

At 6 a.m. on the 27th July, we left our temporary camp to go down stream, on our way to the head-quarters, about 25 miles off. After three hours' paddling we found elephant tracks that morning, which we at once started to follow up. We halted after three hours' hard walking, and as we did not appear to be catching up the elephant, decided to make our way back to our praus and breakfast.

Taking a different direction we had only gone a few hundred yards when we found we were right on the top of the elephant. P. took the four-bear, and I a double twelve, and in a few minutes we were in sight of him feeding away from us; P. was to have the first shot. The beast went zigzagging about, pulling down a branch here and there, and once I think I had have shot him while I stopped for a minute thinking the best was coming back to me. P. went on and I lost sight of him. A minute after there was a crash and a terrific trumpeting; I knew the beast had winded up, and stopped for P. to fire before I expected the brute would bolt. P. called out to me by name, but in an ordinary tone of voice, and believing it to be merely a caution, and that perhaps he meant the elephant was coming my way, I did not answer. A second later there was a cry of "Help." The Malays and I shouted out; another crash through the jungle, and the elephant, a small one with tusks not more than 2 or 3 feet long, was standing in the open before me at about 25 paces. I gave him both barrels and I believe wounded him badly, but he had no opportunity of finding out. I at once ran up to P. who was not more than 20 yards distant, though out of sight, and found him lying under a tree, white as a sheet, with a lot of blood coming from his left leg. I gave him whiskey and since then have gathered the following particulars:—

Having got close up to the elephant he aimed and pulled, but the cartridge missed for elephant at once charged; he looked round for gun and heater not there reloaded, and saying to himself, one shot for life, waited till the elephant was within 15 yards, when gun missed fire again, got behind a tree and as elephant came round struck him over the head with rifle; left trunk caught him on left upper thigh and upon him round; elephant then drove trunk right back cutting his head, slightly over right ear, and attempted to crush him, which P. prevented by hanging on to right trunk. Then, I imagine, he shouted frightened the beast and he flung P. away and bolted. I bandaged wounds up with strips

of my shirt, and keeping our head tracker, Santul, a most excellent man and sportsman, with us, I despatched the other three to find praus and bring up food, etc., and more coolies to carry P. into camp. This was about 12.45; we had each had a cup of cocoa in the morning, but nothing solid since the night before; we had no biscuits with us; there was no water and I had nearly half a bottle of whiskey in my flask. About 3 a.m. said it was going to rain and made a shelter of palm leaves, under which we made a move and sat down to wait for the coolies, whom I expected about 4. We had a heavy thunderstorm, which was most lucky, as P. had a raging thirst and we were able to get him water. It did not last long, and there was nothing for him to drink. The coolies did not appear till 11 a.m. the following morning. The horrors of that night in jungle without water, and P. asking for it all the time, are more than I can attempt to describe to you. About 7 a.m. Santul supplied after that. Coolies brought food, but nothing P. could touch except a little cold gravy and some brandy. We made a litter and started at 11 to carry him 6 miles to the river. Four men in front cut the way and we got through well, considering all things, in 4 hours. Then down stream for 2 of an hour till I found a suitable spot for a camp and was able, about 29 hours after the accident, to wash P.'s wounds. Following morning at daylight I sent one prau up stream with letter to Lister asking and another down to Haik about 7 a.m. asking for doctors. I had a house built over P. and kept P. going with soup, eggs, and lime juice. Mercifully we had bandages and carbolic oil with us, and when 3 days after the accident we got our stores up from our head-quarters, plenty of carbolic acid, with which I washed the wounds. After waiting 4 days and hearing nothing about doctor, we decided to go up stream and make our way here. Left camp at 5 p.m. and August in large covered prau, and travelled four hours. Tied up for the night and started again at 8.15 a.m. at 2.30 p.m. met apothecary from Tampin coming down stream, he considered him in a wonderfully good state, considering. He dressed wounds again, using iodine, which I had, but had not used. We travelled till dark and after some difficulty arranged with Malays to go on when moon rose. Left 1.30 a.m. and arrived at Jempul, 10 miles from here, at 6 a.m. 4th. After keeping us waiting some hours police corporal reported that we could not procure coolies, and we had to stay all day in the police station, a fairly comfortable house, sending on a police man to warn him of our arrival, and another man, about 3.30 p.m. had a very good effect, P. having known him at home. For the first time the wounds were properly washed out and syringed, and found in a very good condition, and free from smell. Left Jempul 8 a.m. yesterday and took 8 hours to do the 10 miles; blazing sun and rough track. Kept P. up with champagne, eggs, and brandy. From here we are making our way down to Singapore, via Malacca.

MARRIAGE OF THE EARL OF THE RIVER.

A few centuries before Christ, at Yeh, there was a Prefect whose name was Pao Shi-men. When he arrived at his post he found the place desolate and almost deserted. He called the Elders and asked what was the cause of this. The cause is the marriage of the Earl of the River. The Prefect said: "This is a strange thing indeed. How does the Earl get married? You may tell all freely to me." They then said: "The River Chang comes from Ku Yen and passes Sha Ch'eng towards the east. Where it passes our place it is called the God of the River. The God is fond of beautiful women and requires a new wife every year. If one is chosen for him then he will protect and grant them an abundant harvest and suitable rains. If not, the God becomes angry, floods the land and drowns the people." The Prefect asked: "Who are the leaders in this matter?" The Elders replied: "The witch of this city, and being afraid of floods we dare not disobey. Every year the country chiefs and Superintendent of Police and the witch raise fabulous sums of money. They spend hundreds of thousands of dollars on the marriage of the Earl of the River and the rest they divide among themselves." The Prefect asked: "Do the people allow this to go on without protest?" The Elders replied: "The witch attends to prayers to the Earl. The Superintendent of Police and the sub-officers go about to get money, and as it is for the public good they do it gladly. There is another trouble. In the spring at sowing time the witch goes round the country everywhere in search of a bride. If there be any one that looks at all well then she says she should become the wife of the Earl. Those unwilling have to buy their freedom by much money and get her to go elsewhere. But the poor have no help but to give up their daughters. The witch sets up a great Palace on the banks of the river, surrounds it with carpets and hangs it with curtains. The bride is bathed and dressed in bridal array and lives in the Palace. Then a lucky day is chosen. A boat of reeds is made, and on that day she enters this boat, and after floating for some few miles sinks. The people deplore this expense, and are in dread of their daughters being chosen for the Earl of the River, therefore they send them secretly away, and that is why this city is so empty and desolate." The Prefect asked: "Did you ever have floods here?"

"As we sacrifice a bride annually we have not offended the Earl of the River. Besides the city is both high and far from the river. We often have droughts." The Prefect said: "As the God is protecting you, when you give the bride I want to come and send her too and pray for you." When the time came the Elders informed the Prefect. He put on his best robes and went in person to the river side. All the city officers, the Superintendent of Police, and the district chiefs and village leaders were all present, as well as the people from all quarters far and wide. There were altogether many thousands of spectators. The Superintendent of Police and the Elders led the Chief Witch before the Prefect. Her manners were extremely arrogant. She was attended by over twenty young witches richly dressed with silks and ornaments all perfumed. The Prefect said: "May I trouble you, the Chief Witch, to let me see the Bride of the Earl of the River?" The old witch ordered one of her maids to fetch her. The Prefect saw her, and she was beautiful, but quite ordinary. Then he said to the Chief Witch and to the Superintendent of Police: "The Earl of the River is a noble God. If the bride is not beautiful, she won't do for him. This Bride is common; we will select a better one for him." May I trouble the Chief Witch to go and report this from me to the Earl of the River?" With this he ordered his soldiers to throw the Chief Witch into the river. At this all changed their countenances and were very much alarmed. The Prefect said: "Omit this, I am capable of managing this business. She has gone to the river this long time and has not returned with any reply. Let one of her young witches go after her and tell her to return quickly." And with this the soldiers threw one of them also into the river. But as she too was long returning he sent, one by one, three of them after the old witch, with the same result. Then the Prefect said: "These are women and cannot speak properly. May I trouble the Superintendent of Police to go into the river and explain matters clearly to the Earl?" When the officer was about to make excuses the Prefect sternly said: "Go at once and come back to let us know what the Earl says." Immediately the soldiers on the right and the left, without letting him speak, threw him also into the river.

All the onlookers put out their tongues in terror. The Prefect stood looking at the river most earnestly for about two hours without saying a word. Then he turned round and said: "The Superintendent of Police is too old; we must get his sub-officer and the country chiefs." These were so frightened their faces became black with fear, perspiration ran down their cheeks and shoulders. They all fell down against the ground and their heads covered their faces, and would not get up from their knees. The Governor then said: "Wait a little." All the people trembled with fear. After a pause he said: "The water flows along and never returns. Where is the Earl, who destroys the people's daughters? Your sin is great, and you should give life for life." Then all the people fell on their knees, knocked their heads against the ground and said: "True O Prefect, but it was the Witch who deceived us, not these men." The Prefect said: "The Witch is dead. If these men are the middle-men and shall be sent into the river to consult with the Earl." He commanded the officers and country chiefs to refund all the money falsely appropriated to the people, and told the Elders to look for old bachelors and give the wards of the old witch to them for wives. Thus ended witchcraft there. The people have made the Prefect immortal by their songs of praise to him.—*Chinese Times*.

THE FLOODS IN WESTERN SHANTUNG.

26th July, 1890.

Mention was made in these columns some days ago, of two breaks in the Grand Canal which took place during the second week in July, one of them being just at the south suburb of the city of Wuch'eng, and the other below Tchou. They were remarkable for the season of the year in which they took place, the time being within the fifth moon, when such catastrophes are almost wholly unknown. It is also strange and thus far an unexplained circumstance, that these breaks took place when the Canal was only half full of water, an occurrence which, so far as we can learn, is wholly unprecedented. This fact has given rise to all sorts of rumours that the breaks were made by design, though no one can explain to whose interest it could be to have them occur. The facts connected with the break near Wuch'eng when apprehended in all their bearings, are of a kind of window which lets in a great deal of light upon the relation of the local government to the people of China and upon the relation of those people to one another. In order to understand the circumstances, a few words of explanation are necessary with regard to the topography of the country. The Grand Canal is an artificial waterway, extending from Hangchow in the Ch'ing province, to the city of Linch'ing in Shantung. At this point the canal enters the Wei river, although the latter is ordinarily called by the Chinese the Imperial river (Yü ho), or the Grain Transporting river (Yün-liang ho), throughout all its course to Tientsin. The general course of this stream to the sea, through the province of Shantung and Chihli is from south-south-west to north-north-east. On the right bank of the river, beginning at a point near Tchou in north-western Shantung, runs a bank having a general direction parallel to that of the river bank, varying from a few li, to a width of sixty li, or even more. This bank crosses the real Canal at Linch'ing, and runs south-westerly parallel with the river, being lost sight of in a distant part of Honan. The land between the river and this bank is much lower than that to the right of the bank, and forms indeed a depression as if it had once been the bed of a great lake. The bank is evidently very ancient, and all trustworthy tradition as to its origin are lost. One of the tales in popular currency is that this is a relic of the late Ch'iu Shih-huang, the same who abolished the feudal system, unified China, burnt the books, pitted the scholars, (*Fu shü K'ung ju*) and built the Great Wall. These several achievements are enough for any one emperor, without aspiring to construct a bank the uses of which are difficult to comprehend. To the modern and non-philosophical Chinese it is sufficient to remark in a *nonchalant* way that it was built to keep out the Yellow River on the south, and the Tartars on the north. However this may be, the region enclosed constitutes a great depression, thickly sown with villages, and in case of a break of the Yünliang river, is liable to destructive inundation. The variations of level within this district (which is locally known as "Under-the-Bank") are so great, that some of the villages may be wholly drowned out, while those so fortunate as to be a little higher suffer no damage. In every year of more than the average rainfall, this unfortunate region is liable to flood. Those villages which are situated on the "bank" when the water is high, with the villages which are situated on the edge of the bank, most of the land belonging to which is "below the bank" are resolved to prevent. The result is not infrequently fights and lawsuits of portentous proportions. The city of Wuch'eng, on the right bank of the Canal, is wholly within the low region, and eighteen of the villages which it governs are in a very low and exposed place. Adjoining them on the south-east, is the district of Hsia-chin, to the north-east that of Enhsien. At this point lies the old bed of a "Sandy River" which is probably one of the numerous depressions through which the waters of the Yellow River have in former days emptied themselves. The situation of Wuch'eng is a very bad one, from an engineering point of view, for the river, coming round a sharp bend, is peculiarly liable to burst its banks at this place. This must have happened many times in past ages, and before the present instance has apparently occurred twice during the present century. Upon one of these occasions, the historical details of which are not now clearly remembered, the Enhsien people succeeded in getting the right granted officially, to make a bank across this sandy river, thus saving their extensive flat from inundation. It is this bank which has made endless trouble to those on both sides of it. Five years ago, although the Canal did not actually break, a great amount of water washed over the banks at this point, and this, united with the phenomenally heavy rains, inundated the eighteen villages of Wuch'eng. The villagers of the latter undertook to cut through the bank, so as to let out the water upon Enhsien. A large number of the villages from the latter district were guarding the bank, and the result was a serious battle, and the loss of several lives. The chronic hostility between the men of these adjacent districts was bitterly aggravated by the long-continued lawsuits which resulted.

When intelligence was given this year of the threatened gap, the Enhsien men rushed in thousands to protect their bank against the assaults of the Wuch'eng men. The latter were too few to use force, but they tried guile, with much must have seemed to them signal success. It is reported that when the Enhsien men arrived, there was among them no organisation of any kind, each caring for his own interests. The Wuch'eng party hired eight men, all practiced in athletics, and therefore able to defend themselves if attacked. These eight men were hired to go over the bank and mingle with the Enhsien villagers, watching for an opportunity to serve the interests of their own side. During the forenoon they worked with the Enhsien men to strengthen the bank, but at noon, when the latter retired to eat their lunch, these eight men remarked that they would stay and make a little longer, while the others ate their meal. (This, of itself, ought to have excited immediate suspicion, as it is believed that there is no record of any such *bande d' action* in any part of Chinese history.) As soon as the Enhsien men were gone, the eight spies proceeded to cut the bank which they had just been mending, and the first that was known by the Enhsien party was a stream of water pouring through the gap. Perceiving, too late, the trap into which they had fallen, the thousands of Enhsien labourers rushed to the eight, who all escaped, however, through the waters, to their own homes. With the exception of one man, who was captured, and according to report was wounded by a gun. He was taken to the magistrate of Enhsien, and is at present in jail. For this service, it is said that the Wuch'eng party agreed to pay the eight men fifty thousand cash each, equivalent to about seventeen taels, with the characteristic Chinese proviso, "no responsibility whether death resulted or not" (*ku huan sui huo*). As soon as it was seen that the bank was really cut, instead of attempting to repair the mischief, which, however, may have been impossible, or even consulting about the matter, the Enhsien villagers straggled off to their homes to see what would be the effect there. As soon as they were all gone, the breach would doubtless be expanded to the utmost by the Wuch'eng villagers, and the result is that a vast torrent of water has been steadily pouring in upon the great flat, which contains a hundred and eight villages. There is good evidence that nothing effectual has been done toward stopping the river breach at Wuch'eng, the south gate of which is so awry that it is in danger of falling. A few days after the event mentioned, the district magistrate of Enhsien went to Wuch'eng to see his neighbour of that district, and various rumours are afloat as to what he said at the interview. It is reported that the former cited the proverbial philosophy of his country in the phrase, "When water comes, stop it with earth; when rebels come, stop them with troops;" to which the other replied with the equally conclusive aphorism, "Let water take its course" (*jen shui tsui liu*). Each of these principles is at different times acted upon by the Chinese authorities, so that each may claim to have law and precedent on its side. The result is the chaos of conflicting interests which we now witness whenever a flood threatens. The great mistake in the past times have been thrown up in different directions to prevent a partial inundation from becoming a general one. Whenever the use of such division banks becomes apparent, the same phenomena exhibited at the main bank are exhibited also at the lesser ones. Those who live on the side which is higher are determined to raise the bank, those on the opposite side are resolved to cut it, and the inevitable issue is a series of fights, in which the bank is ultimately cut, as it is always easier to take than to preserve. If due measures had been taken, by the district magistrate in advance, proclamations posted at the bank, by the Enhsien official, it is thought that all this irregular and wasteful skirmishing might have been wholly prevented, and the ill will also, which is certain to result in similar fights and disasters in generations to come. But each official thinks that "he has enough to do to attend to the countless *de facto* ills which are forced upon his attention, without going out of his way to prevent others which may not come until he has been transferred to some better post. Thus in all departments of the government, selfishness is the real ruler of China." The incidence of the miseries of the poor people, victims of circumstances, and of such an absence of system, there have been again many unusually heavy rains, which, added to all that went before, have made this part of the province a wilderness of water. The village in which these lines are written is at this moment surrounded with an unbroken sheet of water, flowing with a strong current, and for the past two days steadily rising, a part of the time at the rate of an inch an hour. Thick earthen ramparts and heavy gates are melted down by its destructive course, and the foreign trade is in danger of being put in jeopardy. Yet all this might at any time be stopped at once, by letting the unwounded floods down into the "under-the-bank" region, which is already flooded, as above described. But such a disposition of the waters would not suit the villages on the edge of the bank, although their land is certain in any event to be fatally swamped within forty-eight hours, and a little more water would make no difference. They have closed all the avenues of escape, acting not on the maxim, "let water take its course," but upon the rival aphorism, "when water comes, stop it with earth." Their village is a large one, and ours is small. There is a vivid recollection of a similar state of things thirty years ago, when our village cut the dyke, and was prosecuted at law, lost its case, and had to apologise by expensive theatricals. Warned by this experience, our village will neither try to let the water out, nor to stop its arrival, which last could have been done by two hours' work of a few men plugging up a deep cut, mis-called a road, by which this water is distributed in all directions. To dam it up would be to incur the hostility of those villages which would thus be more deeply drowned, all of which are impressed with the doctrine of the axiom, "let water take its course." Our village is connected with nearly all the families in the nearest of these half-drowned villages, by a tangle of marriage alliances, and the ill-will and lawsuits sure to ensue are more dreaded than the water, so nothing is done. Other villages, beyond ours, do not, however, take this view of the case, and have stopped all the roads, aply called, roads, gutters, and being thus caught in a pocket, will be left to soak, until the water subsides, which will not be for at least a month, even if the water does not rise higher, and no more heavy rains follow (both very uncertain conditions, as we are only one-third through the sixth moon). In a perfectly flat country, it is a matter of constant surprise, whence such torrents of water come. An old course of the Yellow River, not far away, is the sluiceway through which the floods are distributed, rising till they come to the "highway" from Tientsin to the south, which flows lower than any other part of the country, as a perfect canal. The country "abounding in the deep cuts," just mentioned, once, long roads, and as one goes on, one sees a series of small canals to facilitate the distribution of the overflow. By this judicious means, devastation and ruin are brought within the reach of the poorest village, and the richest of them cannot expect to escape. A report is in circulation that a part of the floods came from the Chao Wang

river, one of the larger escape pipes of the Grand Canal. As there are fish several inches long in the lakes outside our large gate, theory assumes a certain plausibility. The effect of all this upon the average of the crops, can not yet be foreseen, but the special result in limited districts must be great misery. It is remembered with dismay that in the great flood of 1823, the region under the bank was flooded more or less for six years, and most of the population became refugees to more favoured districts. The floods are generally followed in the succeeding season by a plague developed from the spawn of the fish. The Chinese are never logical, and are frequently incursive and stolid, but when they do undertake to give reasons for phenomena the causes of which are unknown, it will go hard but they will succeed in the attempt.—*N.C. Daily News*.

KOREAN NOTES.

Seoul, August 18th.

H.B.M.'s Consul-General, Mr. W. C. Hillier, returned on the 4th inst. from a trip to Port Hamilton and Fusan, caused evidently by the senseless rumours of Russian and American interference in the affairs of the peninsula Kingdom.

We are advised by telegraph of the appointment by the Holy See of Monsignor M. de la Pastorella as Apostolic Vicar of Korea. Monsignor M. de la Pastorella, born in 1834, came to Korea as missionary in 1877, and after spending eight years in the Far East, returned to France to fill the position of Director of the *Seminaire des Missions Extrangeres* at Paris, a post he now quits to take up more important functions in Seoul.

The intensity of the summer heat has caused much illness this year amongst foreigners resident in Korea.

The 13th inst. H.E. Yuen celebrated the Chinese Emperor's birthday in the usual manner, and in the evening entertained the *corps diplomatique* at dinner, all the Chinese merchants in Seoul brilliantly illuminating their shops and residences in the evening.

A few days ago Mr. O. N. Deany hauled down his Korean flag—the cause of so much comment—and removed his flagstaff in obedience to the command of the Korean Government.

The continued ill-health of U.S. Minister, Mr. A. Heard, causes him to leave to-day on a short trip to Chefoo. During his absence the Legation will be in charge of the missionary-medico-diplomatic and hospital and palace *champan*, H. N. Allen. Great Korea seems rather an unhealthy place for Americans just at present.—*Chinese Times*.

NAGASAKI.

27th August, 1890.

The Norwegian steamer *Nord*, Capt. Nielsen, well known on this coast, arrived from Vladivostok yesterday, under charter, we believe, to the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha, to engage run between Kuchino and Hongkong.

A new road to Tomachi, which will be traversable by *jinrikisha*, will shortly be commenced, the expense of making which will be partly defrayed by the inhabitants of Tomachi village, and partly by a subsidy from the local Government. The route to be taken by the new road has already been surveyed by the Government surveyor.

The N.Y.K. steamer *Mitsi Maru* arrived here on Sunday last, and will leave again in a few days for Hongkong with a full cargo of coal. From that port she will, we hear, proceed with a cargo of sugar to Australia. The night before her departure from Yokohama, her second officer, Mr. J. C. Baines, fell overboard from a sampan, and was unfortunately drowned.

Whilst getting under weigh, about 3 p.m. on Friday last, the Norddeutscher Lloyd's steamship *General Weider* had the misfortune to get on the reef which runs some distance into the bay, just below the Mitsui Bishi Co.'s Dock at Tategami. She was scarcely moving through the water at the time, and was, we believe, not damaged; but as the tide was falling she could not get off again until about 9 p.m. the same night, when she at once proceeded on her journey.

CHI-NAN FU.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT).

August 11th, 1890.

The excellent leader that appeared in your columns some weeks since on the missionary troubles at this place represented the situation very well at that time. We understand, however, that the Americans are not to be left to themselves, but that the Home Government has taken up the matter, and that in all probability there will soon be vigorous action by the U.S. Minister, and some desirable result here. How to stop the dilatory Chinese officials is a problem for every one of the Legations, in these modern days of peace, to consider.

The Governor returned to the city yesterday, and is complaining of not feeling well. The two officials of the rank of Taotai in special charge of sections of the river have been degraded temporarily, while the status of the Governor is regarded as uncertain. There are rumours that the river has broken in other places in the northern embankment, but nothing definite can be learned here. For a while the report has prevailed that the river had broken a great gap in Shanai, at three years ago in Honan, but I imagine it is more the wish of the people in Shanai than the actual fact.

The last two weeks have been clear and hot, until two days since, when a slight rain occurred that has cooled the atmosphere.

The new Treasurer, Fu Jun, has returned from his visit to Peking, to have audience with the Emperor. The new Judge has not yet appeared. The city is quiet. The country is suffering.—*N.C. Daily News*.

NOTICE.

HONGKONG & WHAMPOA DOCK COMPANY, LIMITED.

SHIPMASTERS AND ENGINEERS

are respectfully informed that, if upon receipt of this Harbour Notice of the COMPANY'S FOREMAN should be at hand, ORDERS FOR REPAIRS, if sent to the HARBOUR OFFICE No. 14, Praya Central, will receive prompt attention.

In the event of complaints being found (necessary communication with the Underground) requested, when immediate steps will be taken to rectify the cause of dissatisfaction.

D. GILLES, Secretary.
Hongkong, 25th August, 1890.

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